

Collect for 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen



St Mary's
with
St Peter's
PRINCES RISBOROUGH
& ILMER

News

PRAYER POINTS:

- For Helen and Douglas House.
- For the unemployed struggling to find work and those facing redundancy.
- For all those attending the Alpha course and Dan as he leads them on their journey.
- For migrants and refugees fleeing persecution everywhere.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF HEALING AND PEACE:

Oliver Baillie, Alexander Torrance, Steve and Debbi Barnett, Debby Cadwallader & the family, Gladys Page, Reg West, Suzie Aries, Marion Long, John Babb, Carol and Trevor Fitch, Una Harborne, Mavis Finch, Rod and Angela, Michael Hopkins, Christopher and Victoria, Mark Ackford and family, Norman Edwards, Philippa King, Kelly May, Gordon & Kathleen Plumridge, Joyce Bapty, Richard Heaney, and the frail, elderly and bereaved.

WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED TO PRAY FOR:

Kate Quarrell, Gideon, Laura Huidekoper, Barbara Higgins, Mary Jefferies, Alex Chauhan, Rachael, Keith & Judy Brambleby, Barbara Platts, Sarah, Anne and Tony Eccleston, Jennie Lunn, Tony Mead, Hannah, Stuart Bailey.

WE REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THE LIVES OF:

George Harper, John Randall, John Simmons and Voldermar Nestor.

parishoffice@stmarysrisborough.org.uk

Open: Mon & Tues: 9:30am -1.30pm, Weds & Thurs

9:30am -5.00pm

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www.stmarvrisborough.org.uk

Sunday January 21st 2018, 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

An old African proverb, *“Ubuntu nguntu ngabanye abantu”* expresses what it means to be human. (You are only human with other humans). One of the Christians I most admire, the former Archbishop of Cape Town, Desmond Tutu paraphrased it like this, *“A person is a person through persons; you can’t be human in isolation; you are human only in relationships.”* Similarly, you cannot be a Christian in isolation. Even when physically separated from other Christians, a Christian is part of the body of Christ, a community of believers, the communion of saints.

As we explore St Mary’s ‘Church Values’ through the current sermon series, we’ve reached the 2nd letter of ‘GRACE’. ‘R’ is for relationships and ‘Relationships Matter’. Acts 2: 42 – 47 describes the Christian community that grew in Jerusalem after Pentecost. It was a Spirit-filled community. The evidence for this was seen in its relationships. The members of the early Jerusalem church were:

- related to God through regular meeting together for worship in the temple and in homes;
- related to the apostles by devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching;
- related to one another by generous loving, caring and sharing;
- related to the world around them as the Lord added to their number *“those who were being saved”*.

Relationships matter. Relationship with God matters. That relationship develops through public as well as private worship and prayer. Relationship to the apostles’ teaching matters. That’s how we know who Jesus is, what he did and taught. It is available to us through the New Testament. Relationship with other Christians matters, including those different from us or with whom we don’t agree. Relationship with the world around us matters. Christians are not called to hide in holy huddles, but to engage with the world and those who do not yet know Christ.

Yes, relationships matter. But, thank God, it all depends on God’s grace.

Nancy Wallace

NEWS & NOTICES

CHURCH FAMILY BRING AND SHARE LUNCH: On Sun 28th Jan there will be a Family Bring and Share Lunch at 12.30pm. We will be having hot food and if you are able to help with making a dish, please take a label from the label tree in Church. If you can help with setting up or clearing away, please let the Heather know on PR 347600 or heather.hardy@live.co.uk. Please also sign the list in Church if you will be going.

PANCAKE PARTY: There will be an all age pancake party on Tues 13th Feb from 4-6pm. Details to follow. If you can help, please email: stella.upton@btinternet.com.

HOLIDAY AT HOME 2018: This is on Thurs 15th and Fri 16th February, 10am -4pm. If you went to the one in August, you will know it is great fun. All sorts of great activities, two course hot lunch, cakes and biscuits and of course friendship and fun. Booking now open and forms available in Church. Contact Gill on PR 346145 or gill.sunfold@googlemail.com

CONFIRMATION SERVICE: St Mary's will be hosting a Confirmation Service on March 31st 2018 at 6pm. If you would like to be confirmed or know anyone who is thinking of it, please let the Office know. There will be confirmation classes arranged.

WORSHIP TRAINING DAY AT ST MARY'S: A full day of training for anyone interested in developing their skills as a musician or sound operator. Saturday 3rd Feb: 9.30am - 4.30pm. See www.goo.gl/9GgmNe for more info, or contact (tim@sflgroup.co.uk).

AYLESBURY DEANERY LEARNING : The 1st of a 3 part series of interactive evenings on 'Welcome and Hospitality' at Holy Trinity Aylesbury (HP21 7QX) is on 24th Jan at 7.45pm. It is entitled 'What's in a Welcome'. All welcome. Contact info@aylesburydeanery.org for more info. The 2nd and 3rd will be in March and May. **'A VICAR'S LIFE':** Don't forget to tune into BBC2 at 8.30pm on a Friday to watch the new series called 'A Vicar's Life'. This week's episode featured Matthew Cashmore, who was ordinand at St Mary's. You can still watch it on iplayer.

CALL FOR MARMALADE: If you're making marmalade, you might want to make a few extra jars that would form part of the goodie bag going to new Risborough residents over the next few months. Speak to Louise (PR 346425) who is coordinating the door knocking initiative.

JOB VACANCY: Wychert Vale Benefice, is looking for an Administrator to support their group of churches. This is a part-time position of 24 hours a week based in Haddenham. Contact the office (PR 273300) for a copy of the job description and details of how to apply. Deadline Feb 2nd.

JOB VACANCY: 'Embrace the Middle East' are looking for a Digital Communications Manager. Details on jobs page of website www.embraceme.org/vacancies

Sunday 21st January 2018, Third Sunday of Epiphany

GRACE Sermon Series

Readings: Acts 2:42-47; John 2: 1-11

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's
9.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's, Ilmer
9.30am Parish Communion followed by coffee
11.15am TGIS
3.00pm Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service at Speen Baptist
6.00pm Choral Evensong at St Mary's
6.00pm Later at Methodist Church

What's on in the week beginning Monday 22nd January

- Weds 24th** **9.00am** Wednesday Prayers at St Mary's
10.30am Holy Communion followed by coffee
7.30pm Alpha Course in the Chapter House
Thurs 25th **10.30am** Coffee in the Chapter House
Fri 26th **2.00pm** Nursery Service in St Mary's
7.00pm Puppet Club in the Church Hall

Sunday 28th January 2018, Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

GRACE Sermon Series

Readings: Deuteronomy 6:1-7; Matthew 19, 13-15

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's
9.30am Parish Communion followed by coffee
11.00am Family Service at St Peter's, Ilmer
11.15am TGIS with Breaking of Bread
1.00pm Church family Bring and Share Lunch in Church
6.00pm Deeper at St Mary's

Rector: Revd. David Williams 346984/07919263377

Associate Minister: Revd. Michael Hunt 344150;

Curate: Revd. Dan Beesley 345521;

Children's & Youth Worker: Ryan Romano 273300

Assistant Clergy: Revds. David & Nancy Wallace 290670;
Revds. Steve & Rose Williams 274225; Canon Nick Molony 273895;
Revd. Jenny Deverill 274269; **LLM:** Averil Stephenson 343649

Churchwarden: Jim Cadwallader